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SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



THE HEDGEHOG | 279



PEPPERS & DUSKIN
MUNZKEK

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!



**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**



**SONIC
THE WERHOG**
SONIC'S WILDER SIDE!



**ANTOINE
D'COLETTE**
SOLDIER & SWORDSMAN



BIG THE CAT
GENTLE GIANT



CHIP
THE LIGHT GAIA SPIRIT



**SPIKE, SONAR
AND TREVOR**
LOCAL FREEDOM FIGHTERS

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

PREVIOUSLY...

AMBUSHED?

Sonic and his friends have traveled to the desert country of Shamar to find Ehsan, the guardian of that region's Gaia Key! There they met the Shamar Freedom Fighters and set out to rescue Ehsan from the Egg Army, but instead fell into a trap!

Meanwhile, Sally and Bunnie have been hunting for the final missing Chaos Emerald!

Sally parted on good terms with Egg Boss, Clove — but Bunnie is in big trouble thanks to Clove's sister, Cassia...



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ARID SANDS ZONE--
JUST OUTSIDE THE
GAIA TEMPLE...

FACE OF THE ENEMY

Part Two: FRIENDS IN DEED

JUUUUUUST
GREAT!

THIS WAS SUPPOSED
TO BE A RESCUE
MISSION! NOW I'M
IN THE THICK OF IT!

AT LEAST
WITH THE
EGG ARMY
HERE...

SONIC THE
WEREHOG
SONIC'S FEROCIOUS
TRANSFORMATION

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SPECIAL THANKS TO SANDRA JO AND MAI KIYOTAKI
AT SEGA LICENSING

"...THINGS SHOULD
BE EASIER FOR
EVERYONE ELSE!"

ANTOINE
SWORDSMAN

TRYING TO BLIND
ME SO YOU CAN ROAST
ME? ZAT IS NOT ZE
FAIR FIGHT!

FWOOSH!
CHING!

LUCKILY, I AM
TOO SKILLED TO NEED
ZE FAIR FIGHT!

I AM FINE, *MES*
AMIES, BUT ZE EGG
ARMY IS KNOWING
WE ARE HERE.

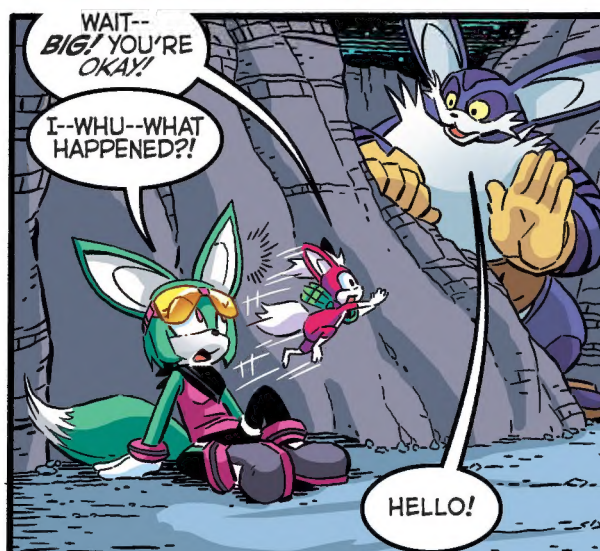
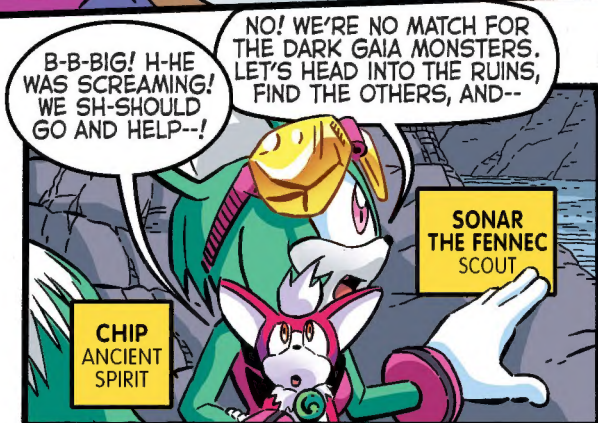
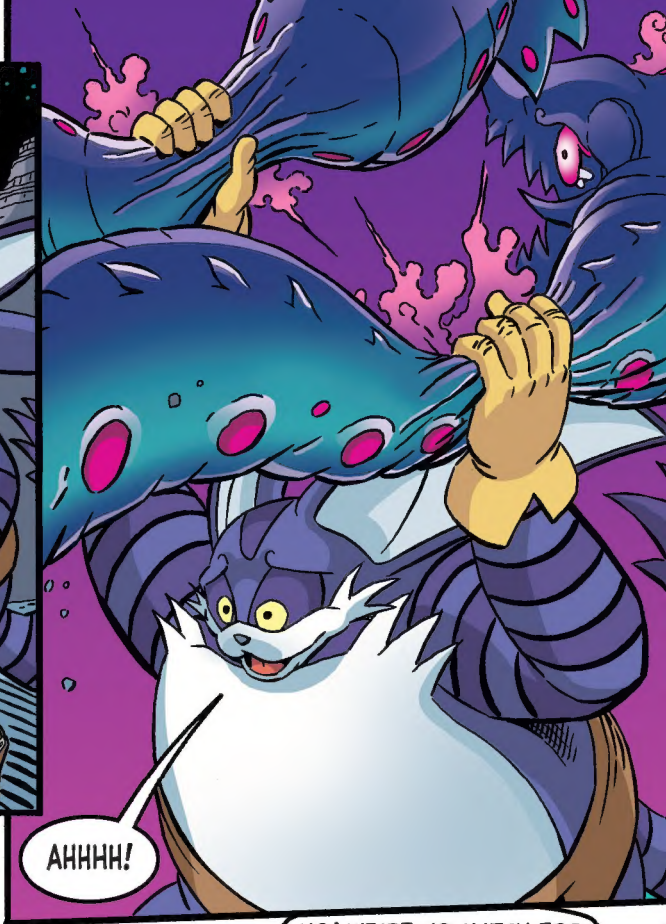
HURRY! WE MUST
FIND EHSAN BEFORE
ZE ENEMY CAN
RALLY...

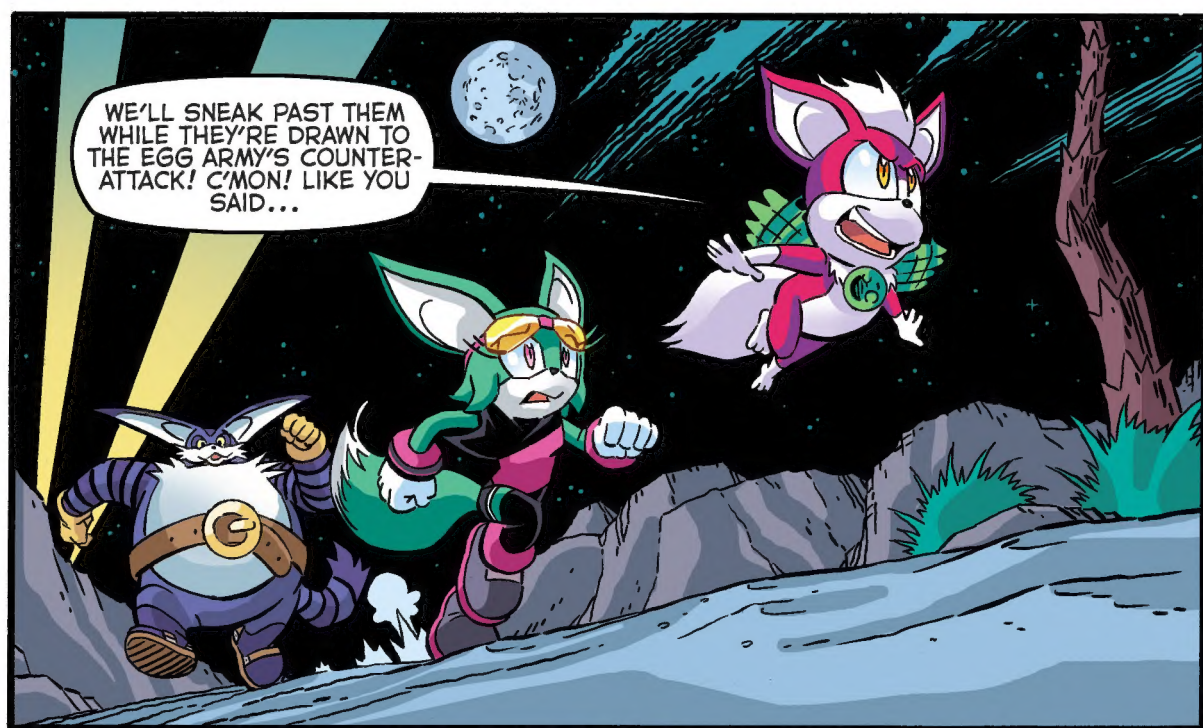
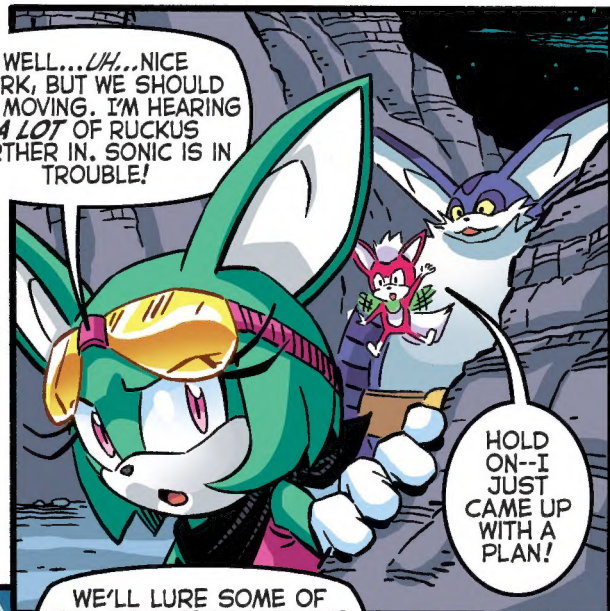
TREVOR
BURROW
BLIND
BURROWER

ANTOINE?
WE HEARD
YOU
SCREAM
AND--!

SPIKE THE
PORCPINE
SPIKY HERO







"...SONIC NEEDS US!"

NEPHTHYS
THE
VULTURE
REGIONAL
EGG BOSS

THWAK!

RRRGH!

YOU'RE
ONLY
MAKING
THINGS
WORSE
FOR US
ALL, YOU
KNOW.

YEAH?
HOW'S
THAT?

YOUR CONSTANT
FIGHTING,
ANTAGONIZING
EGGMAN, ONLY
SERVES TO MAKE
HIM REACT MORE
VICIOUSLY.

SO--WHAT?
YOU WANT ME
TO JUST ROLL
OVER AND LET
HIM HAVE HIS
WAY? THAT'S
NOT HAPPEN-
ING, LADY.

OR--I KICK HIS BUTT
AND WE ALL LIVE
HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
YOU CAN THANK
ME LATER.

HE *CAN'T* BE STOPPED.
WE EITHER *LIVE* IN HIS
EMPIRE, OR *DIE* IN THE
FALLOUT OF YOUR FEUD.

MEANWHILE...

MONSIEUR EHSAN,
I AM PRESUMING?
WE ARE ZE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS! WE'VE
COME TO RESCUE
YOU!

DID
ZEY HARM
YOU?

NO. THEY'VE BEEN
MERCIFUL. BUT THE
CURRY THEY'VE
BEEN FEEDING ME
IS AWFUL!

IT'S
NOT THAT
BAD...

I SENSE MOVEMENT
DOWN THE HALL.
LOTS OF FOOT
TRAFFIC. EGG ARMY
AND... UH...?

MON
DIEU!

SO...HI!
ARE WE
RESCUING
THIS GUY
OR NOT?

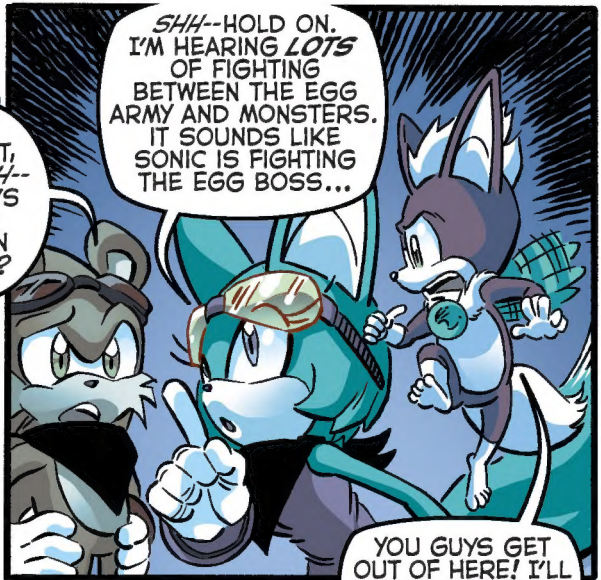
I TOLD
YOU IT
WOULD
WORK!

I GOT
THIS!

SQUUNCH!

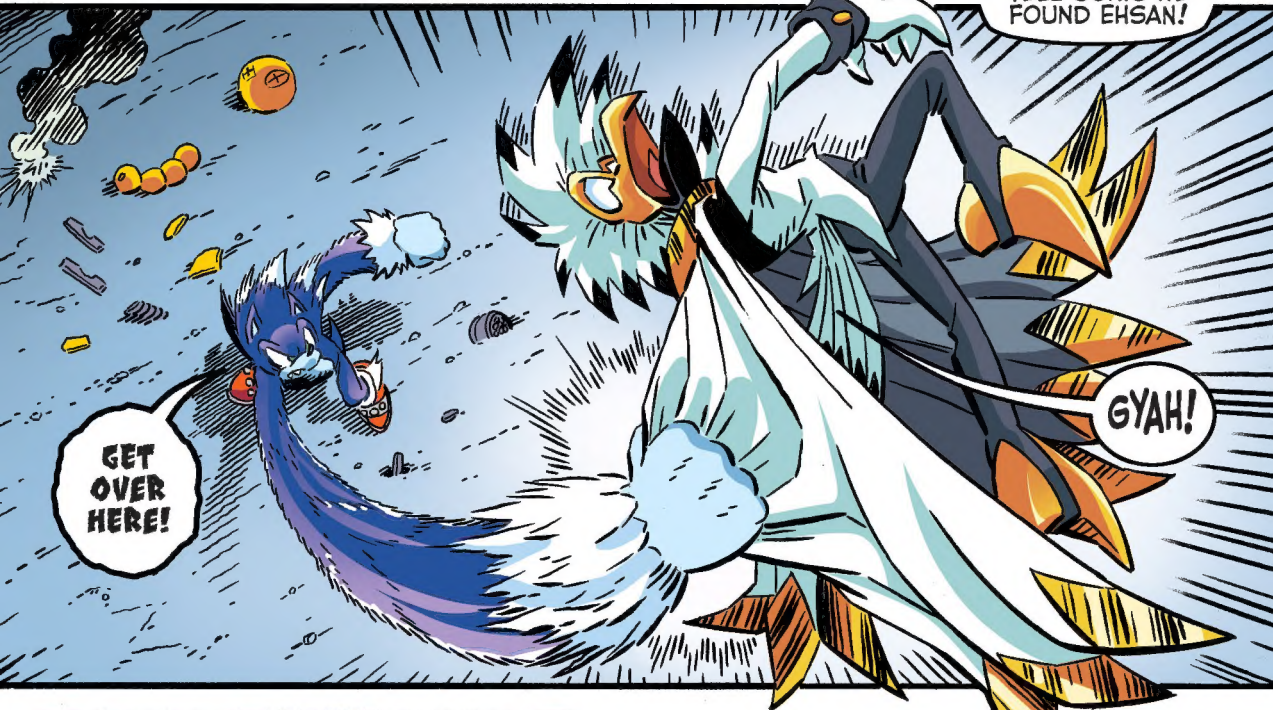


ALL
RIGHT,
SO--UH--
WHAT'S
THE
PLAN
NOW?



SHH--HOLD ON.
I'M HEARING **LOTS**
OF FIGHTING
BETWEEN THE EGG
ARMY AND MONSTERS.
IT SOUNDS LIKE
SONIC IS FIGHTING
THE EGG BOSS...

YOU GUYS GET
OUT OF HERE! I'LL
TELL SONIC WE
FOUND EHSAN!



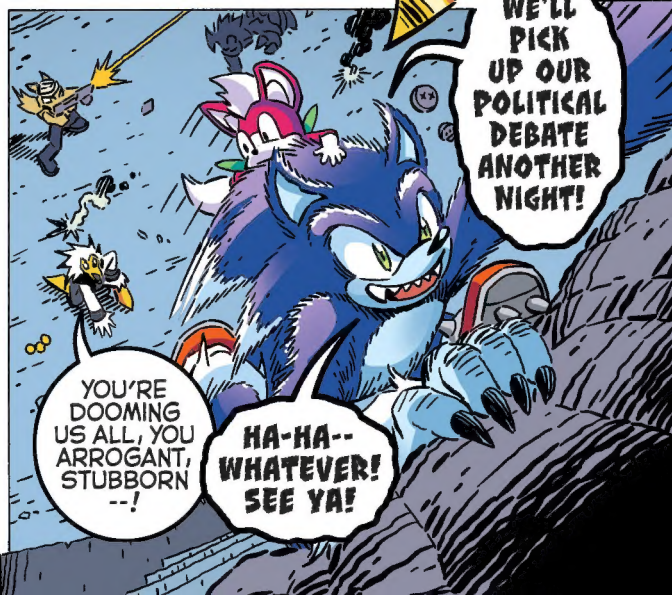
GET
OVER
HERE!

GYAH!



SONIC! WE
GOT HIM!
EVERYONE'S
ALREADY ON
THE MOVE!

AWE-
SOME!
GREAT
WORK!



WE'LL
PICK
UP OUR
POLITICAL
DEBATE
ANOTHER
NIGHT!

YOU'RE
DOOMING
US ALL, YOU
ARROGANT,
STUBBORN
--!

HA-HA--
WHATEVER!
SEE YA!

LATER...

IT WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE I GO NEAR THE GAIA TEMPLE AGAIN.

I'M AFRAID YOU'LL FIND IT IN ROUGH SHAPE WHEN YOU USE THESE KEYS.

NO WORRIES.

AND THANK YOU AGAIN FOR COMING TO MY RESCUE.

DON'T THANK ME. ALL I DID WAS GET SHOT AT. THESE GUYS DID ALL THE HARD WORK.

I'M GLAD WE COULD LINK UP TEAMS, SPIKE. YOU REALLY HELPED US OUT.

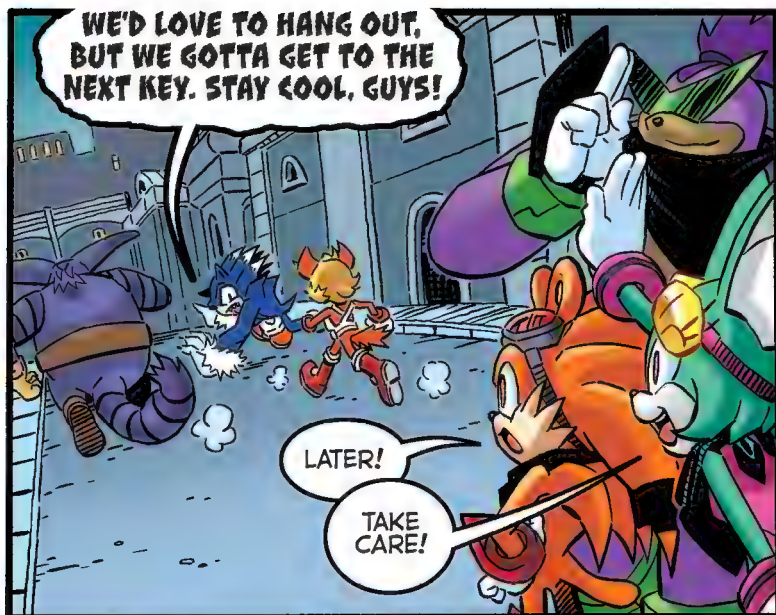
IT'S BEEN AN HONOR, SIR. I HOPE WE CAN DO IT AGAIN SOME DAY.

SO THERE ARE MORE OF THESE "KEY GUARDIANS" AROUND THE WORLD? HOW MANY OTHERS DO YOU NEED TO FIND?

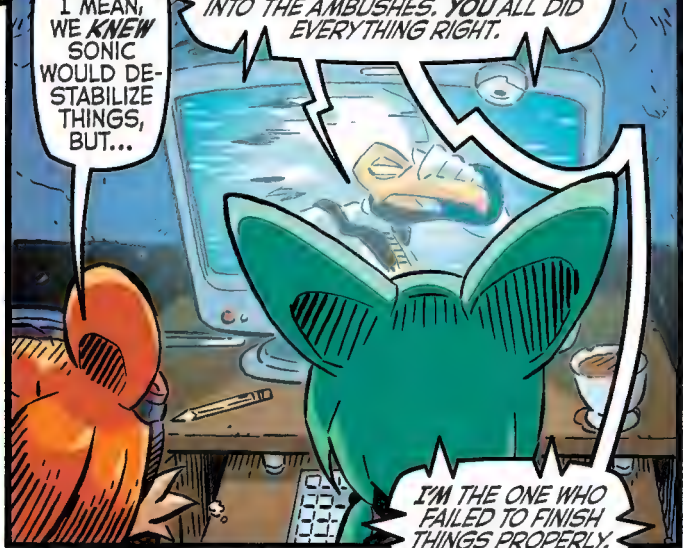
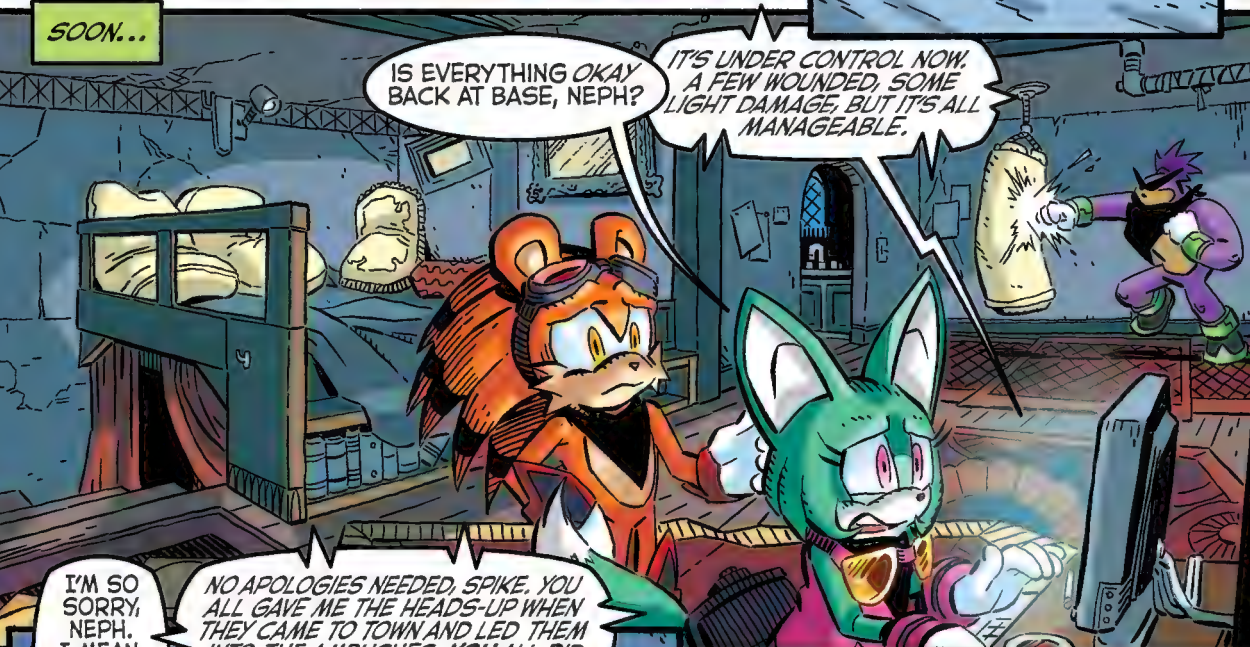
ZAT IS SENSITIVE INFORMATION WE MUST BE GUARDING VERY--

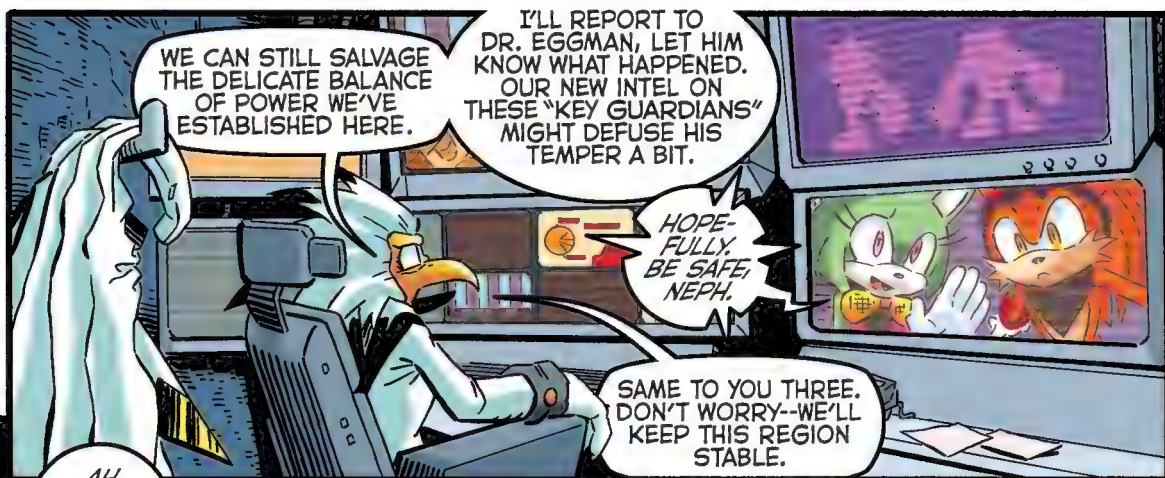
FOUR.

WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER?



SOON...





...WAIT. WHY IS HE CALLING ME? DOES HE SOMEHOW KNOW...?



INCOMING CALL!

INCOMING CALL!

GOOD EVENING, DOCTOR. I-I CAN EXPLAIN...

WHATEVER IT IS--SAVE IT! I NEED YOU ON THE DEATH EGG NOW! YOU'RE TO TAKE PART IN A PRIORITY ONE MISSION!

What IS That Mission?

CHECK OUT "EGGMAN'S DOZEN" IN *SONIC UNIVERSE* TO FIND OUT! NEXT TIME, THE WORLD-SPANNING ADVENTURE CONTINUES! AND YOU CAN FIND EVEN MORE SONIC ADVENTURES IN THE GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!

BUNNIE
"RABBOT"
D'COOLETTE
FREEDOM
FIGHTER

NO
SUDDEN
MOVES,
GOT IT?

CASSIA THE
PRONGHORN
CO-EGG BOSS

LADY
CASSIA!
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?

HIDDEN COSTS PART THREE

WRITER: ALEAH BAKER
PENCILS: EVAN STANLEY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN
COLORS: GABRIEL CASSATA
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN

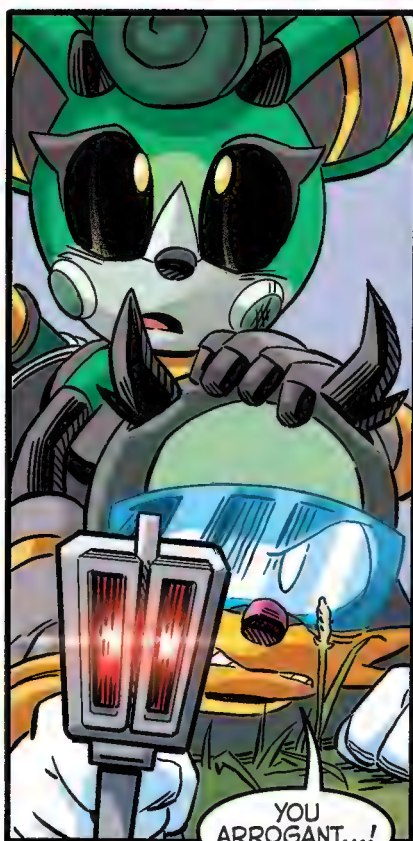
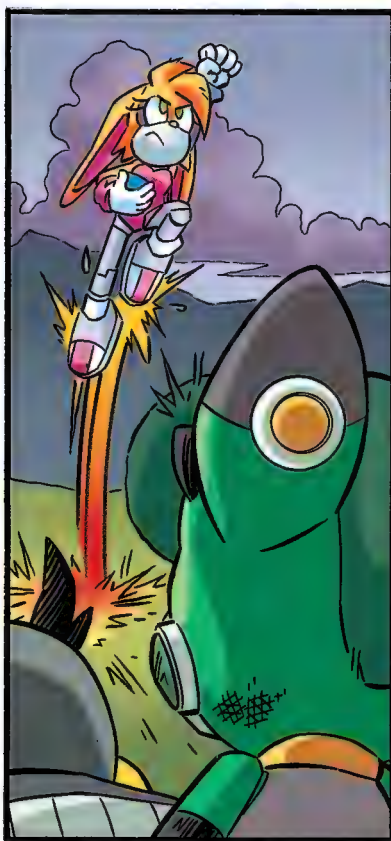
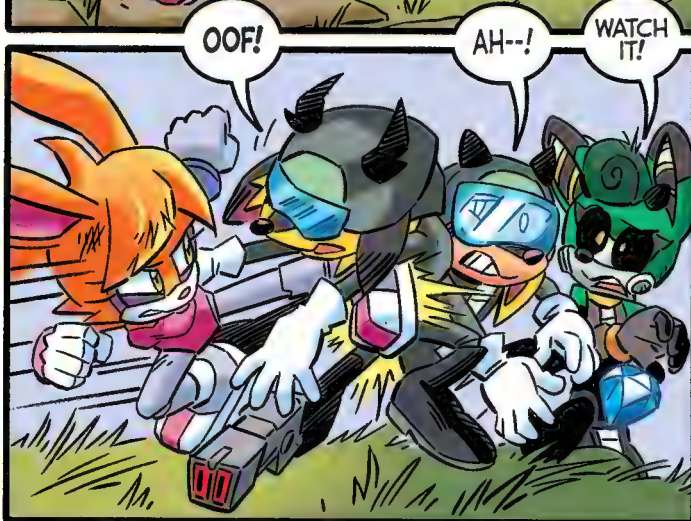
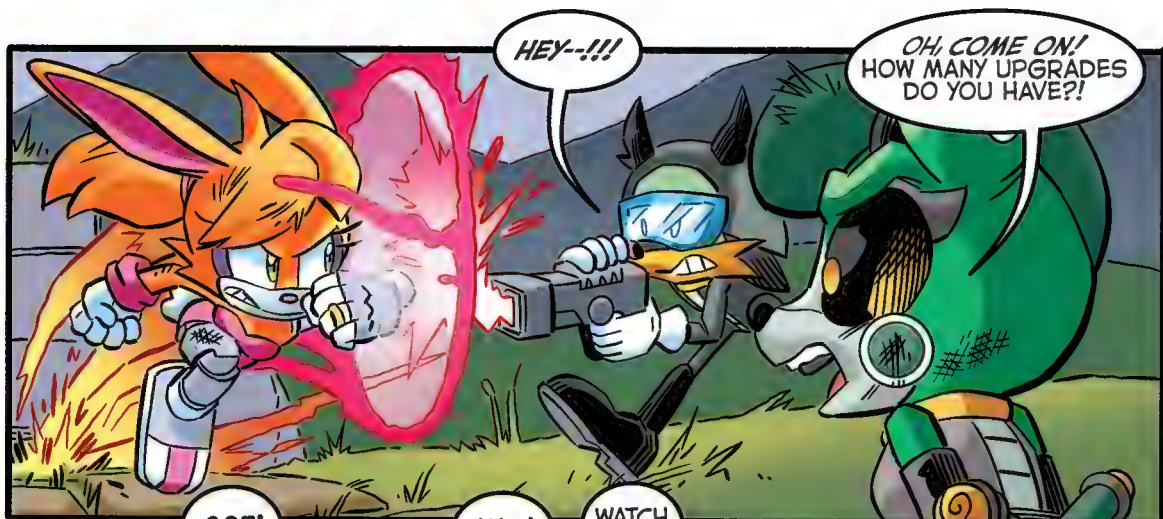
UGH,
DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT.
BESIDES,
CHECK OUT
WHAT I
FOUND!

IS
THAT...
A CHAOS
EMERALD
...?

SURE IS! BUT I
GUESS NOW I GOTTA
FIGURE OUT WHAT
TO DO...

...WITH YOU.



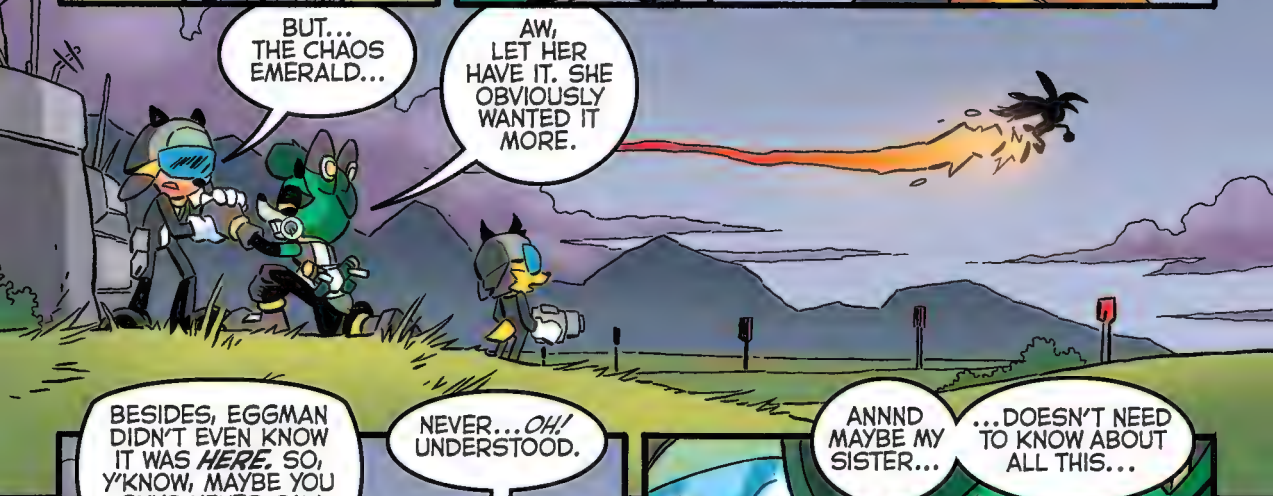




LADY
CASSIA
...?



PSHAHAHAHAHA!
OH, MAN! HOW **BOLD**
WAS THAT?!



BUT...
THE CHAOS
EMERALD...

AW,
LET HER
HAVE IT. SHE
OBSOULETLY
WANTED IT
MORE.



BESIDES, EGGMAN
DIDN'T EVEN KNOW
IT WAS *HERE*. SO,
Y'KNOW, MAYBE YOU
GUYS NEVER SAW
ANYTHING.

NEVER... OH!
UNDERSTOOD.



ANNND
MAYBE MY
SISTER...

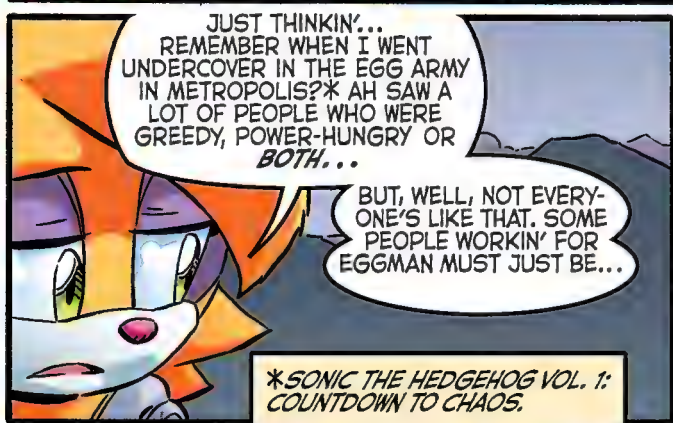
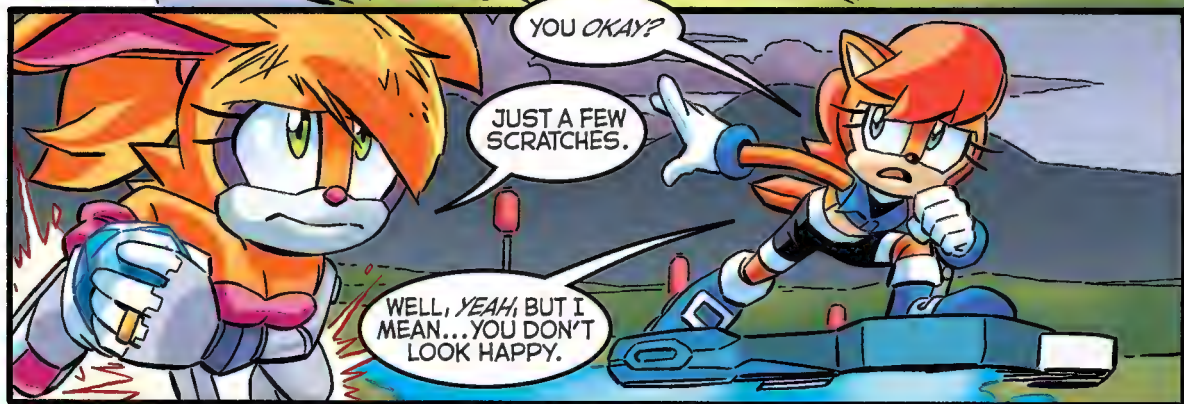
... DOESN'T NEED
TO KNOW ABOUT
ALL THIS...



CASSIA?!

CRUDBUCKETS.





LATER, ABOARD THE
SKY PATROL...

HEY, Y'ALL... DID
SOMEONE ORDER
ONE GEM OF
INFINITE MYSTICAL
POW--

OH, MA PAUVRE
BUNNIE! YOU ARE
HURTED!

CREAM
THE RABBIT
(AND CHEESE)

AW, RELAX,
SUGAR-TWAN, IT
AIN'T SO BAD.

≥GASP≤ THAT'S
THE LAST CHAOS
EMERALD! YOU
DID IT!

NOW WE
CAN SAVE THE
WORLD!

AND
WE
WILL!

I AM THINKING ZIS
CALLS FOR SOME
CELEBRATION, YES?
TO ZE KITCHEN!

OOH, WHAT SHOULD
WE MAKE? I'LL HELP,
MR. D'COOLETTE!

ME, TOO!

AH, NON, MA CHÈRE
PRINCESS... YOU AND
BUNNIE SHOULD GET
ZE REST.

AFTER ALL, IT IS
THANKS TO YOU
(AND NICOLE)...

... ZAT WE
NOW HAVE ALL
SEVEN CHAOS
EMERALDS!

WITHIN THE EGG
ARMY BASE...

DOCTOR...
MY SISTER HAD
ANOTHER...INCIDENT.
I THOUGHT...

I THOUGHT THIS WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN ANY-
MORE! YOU **SAYED** THAT ONCE
SHE FINISHED ADAPTING TO
THE CYBERNETICS, SHE'D
BE **FINE!**

HMM...I **DID** SAY THAT.
THE THING IS, THOUGH...

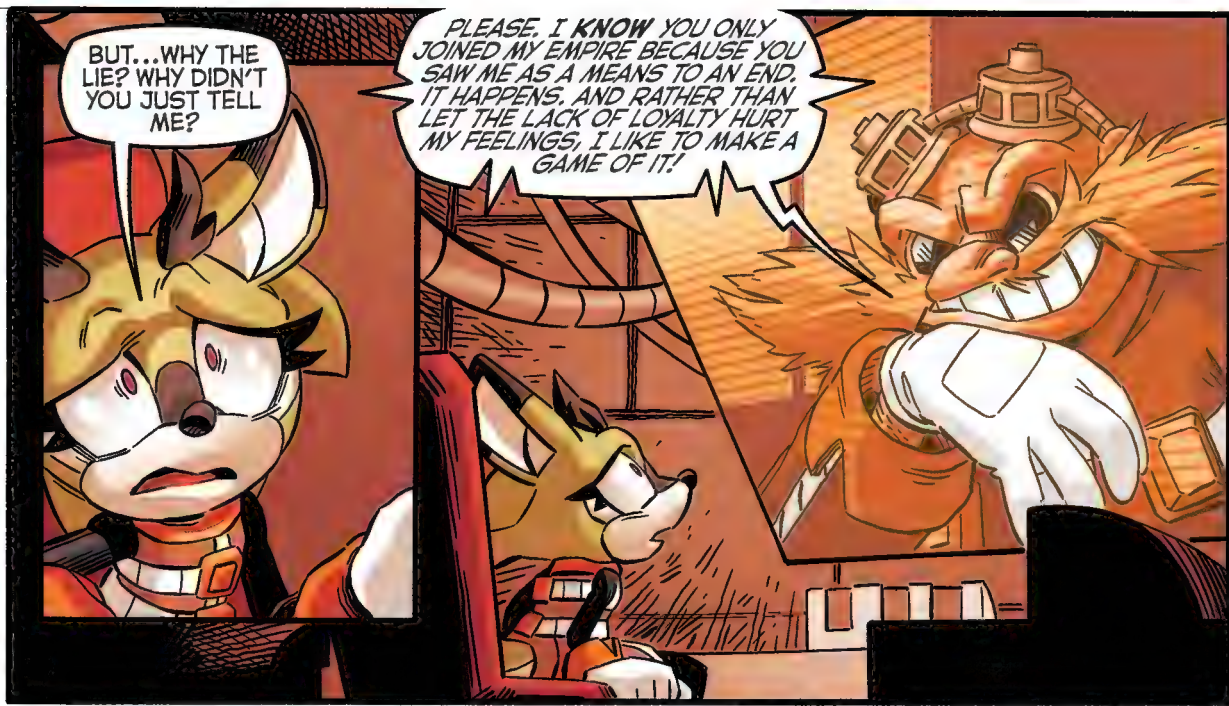
...I **LIED.**

YES, MY CYBERNETICS RESTORED
SOME FUNCTIONALITY, BUT I NEVER
CURED HER CONDITION. IN FACT,
I HAVE **NO IDEA** WHAT'S WRONG
WITH HER! NOT REALLY THAT KIND
OF DOCTOR.

DOCTOR
EGGMAN

THE TREATMENT ISN'T TO HELP
HER ADAPT TO THE CYBERNETICS.
SHE'S FINE IN **THAT** REGARD.

IT'S TO KEEP HER FROM
DEGRADING **FURTHER...**
AND IF SHE **STOPS**
UNDERGOING IT, WELL...



BUT...WHY THE LIE? WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST TELL ME?

PLEASE, I KNOW YOU ONLY JOINED MY EMPIRE BECAUSE YOU SAW ME AS A MEANS TO AN END. IT HAPPENS, AND RATHER THAN LET THE LACK OF LOYALTY HURT MY FEELINGS, I LIKE TO MAKE A GAME OF IT!

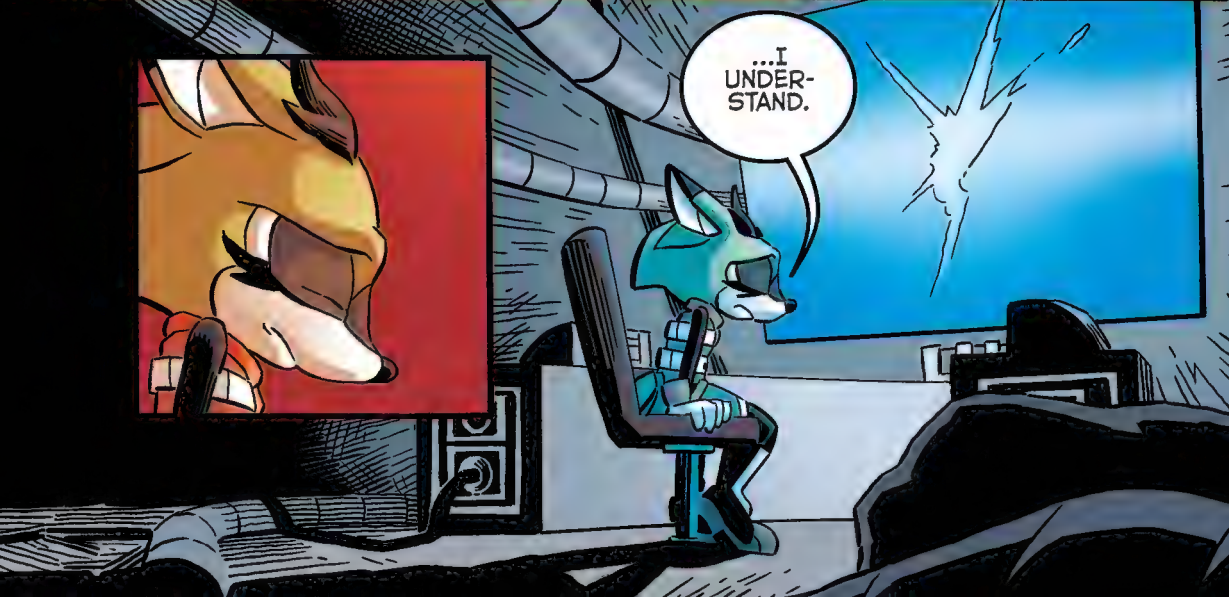


NOW, NOW, DON'T LOOK SO GLUM! IT'S NOT ALL THAT BAD. THE LITTLE BRAT IS CERTAINLY DOING BETTER NOW THAN SHE WAS WHEN WE FIRST MET, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?



AND SHE'LL KEEP RECEIVING HER TREATMENT...AS LONG AS YOU KEEP SERVING MY EMPIRE.

INCOMING ENCRYPTED MESSAGE
CNYFLT SHNDSTBRO HTNPYRDY



...I UNDERSTAND.

SHORTLY...

HEH... BEEN A WHILE
SINCE I FELL ON MY FACE LIKE
THAT, *HUH?* I WAS KINDA HOPING
THOSE DAYS WERE BEHIND ME...
GUESS I STILL NEED THIS
FOR A BIT.

LOOK,
ABOUT
EARLIER,
I--

WWW.WWWW
CHADS EMERALD
CHAMPIONSHIP

HEY... I'M
SORRY. FOR
MAKING YOU
WORRY. I JUST...
HATE FEELING
SO WEAK.

BUT ONCE
I'M DONE WITH
MY TREATMENT, WE
CAN BREAK AWAY
FROM THAT GOON
AND HIS WHOLE
STUPID EMPIRE,
RIGHT?

THAT'S
RIGHT. JUST
A LITTLE WHILE
LONGER...

THE END...
FOR NOW!

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that's both "deer" to us and "for the birds"!

Howdy, Sonic fans!

Do you know what time it is? That's right! It's time for another "buh-WHAAAAAATT???" moment in *Sonic the Hedgehog*! Betcha didn't see it coming that the **Shamar Freedom Fighters** were actually working together with **Egg Boss Nephthys**! Their alliance is just one example of how there is more to Sonic's world than just good and evil. We'll dig deeper into the sandy complexity that is the Shamar FF and Neph at

a later date. For now, please enjoy the dashing concepts of Neph by **Ian Flynn** and **Adam Bryce Thomas** below!

BELOW: Casual PJs color study for **Cassia the Pronghorn**.



Also, how cool was **Bunnie** in "Hidden Costs" pt. 3 and how cute are **Cassia's** pajamas?! You can see the full design by **Evan Stanley** to the left!

This won't be the last you'll see of **Clove** and **Cassia**! In fact, you'll encounter more of Clove in the all-new story arc, "Eggman's Dozen" starting in *Sonic Universe* #83!

That's all for now, folks! 'Till next time, be cool, be wild and be groovy!

– Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor

Vin
2016

BELOW: Various design concepts for the newest addition to the Egg Boss line-up, **Nephthys the Vulture**. "Nephthys" is the name of an ancient Egyptian god of the dead.

NEPHTHYS THE EGYPTIAN VULTURE

EGG BOSS OF MIDEAST • Ian Flynn • June 2015

- named for the Egyptian goddess who protected the dead
- rigid, serious, but can be compassionate and motherly (more "serious business" than Clove)
- conspires with local F.F. to perpetuate a stalemate to prevent damaging conflict (Eggman never loses, but never gains ground, either)
- (Sonic & Co. seen as doing more harm than good by instigating Eggman)
- lifelong friend of local F.F., chose to become Egg Boss for their plan to work



Profile view.
- golden cyborg mask
- hinge like jaw - NOT chubby cheeks!



- Mask is expressive
- How? SCIENCE!



Back view of uniform



SONIC GRAMS

FAN ART



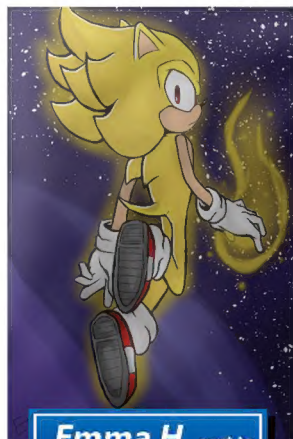
Daniella S. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Erica D.
from Canada



Thomas H. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Emma H. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

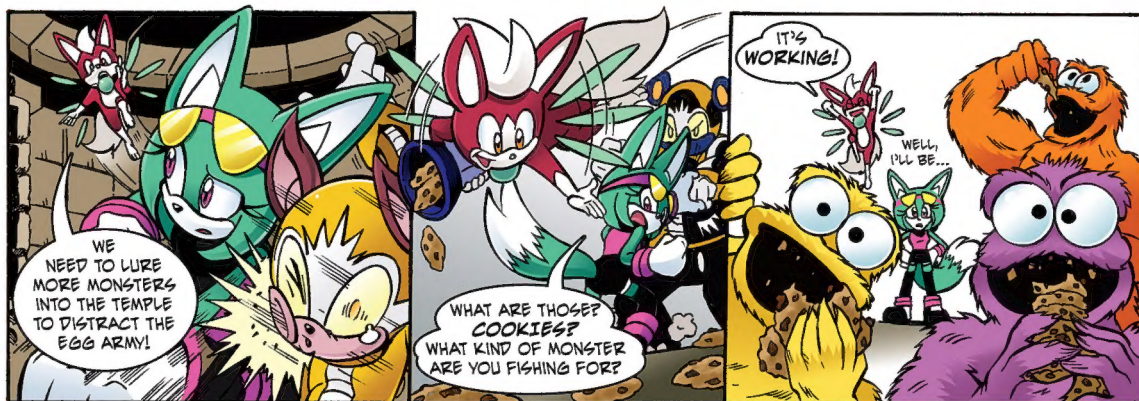


OFF PANEL

C IS FOR KOOKY

AND

MASTER OF DISASTER



SCRIPT: ERIC ESQUIVEL PENCILS: LAMAR WELLS INKS: RICK BRYANT COLORS: ALEAH BAKER



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SONIC GRAMS

WRITE TO US @: SONIC GRAMS C/O
ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
629 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 100
PELHAM, NY 10803-1242 E-MAIL:
SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM
OR TWEET AT US USING #SONICGRAMS!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'

Hey! I have questions that need to be answered!

Well, blunt, no-nonsense and to the point, I see! OK letter-writer-person-- I have answers that need to be questioned! How d'ya like that?

1. What were Sonic's emotions when he faced off against Metal Sonic for the first time?

It was like a chorus of angels! They sang, they danced! They held hands, prancing upon sandy beaches in the moonlight as they happily beat each other's brains out! It was HEAVEN.

2. I'm talking to Sonic now. Sonic, what's it feel like to get roboticized?

Its like a chorus of angels! There's singing, dancing, hand-holding and prancing upon sandy beaches in the moonlight! This isn't Sonic answering, by the way, it's Eggman! Do you see what I did here?

3. What was your best win against Egghead?

All of them. His best win was all of them.

4. Will you please put this letter in? PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEA— (This repeats somewhere around 20 more times and OOPS our first column is now out of room!)

PLEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEZE WITH A CHERRY CHEESECAKE ON TOP?

Talis W.
from Virginia

I'm not sure we'll have the space to print your letter, Talis! But if we do, check our letter columns to find it!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'

I love what you're doing at Archie with my favorite blue hero!

Well, thank you, friend!

I was wondering if you guys were going to feature Sonic using his boost to go all out with his speed. It's a theory, but the Cherenkov radiation he glows when moving faster than light would be awesome if you guys explain it. I hope this goes through. I love adding to the hype of the fastest thing alive!! Keep on juicin'!

Sterling H. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

...Cherenkov? What does....? Huh!? "looks it up... blank, bewildered stare"

Sonic goes vroom-vroom! Thanks for the letter, Sterling! Keep on juicin'!

Dear 'Sonic Grams,'

Hey there!

Hey, hey-hey!

I've been a super-big fan of your comics. My first comic was the "Scourge:

Lockdown" arc, and from that moment on I knew I HAD to see more!

Glad you stuck with us!

That was about 3 years ago, and I'm pretty well updated. But I have some questions I'd like to ask: 1) What comics do I need to look for if I want to see the complete Worlds Unite saga?

"Worlds Unite" encompasses these issues: Sonic Universe #76-78, Sonic Boom #8-10, Sonic the Hedgehog #273-275 and Mega Man™ #50-52 all of which are available on the new Archie app!

2) Who is Gold besides a telepathic Member of the Council?

Gold is a tenrec who fled from a catastrophe on another world...

3) Who was Silver's traitor? That's all for now guys! Thanks!

Hannah H. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com

Princess Sally. 200+ years of history (and Silver jumping to conclusions) lost the details that she'd been roboticized and lost her free will! Of course, everything was later undone with the onset of the Super Genesis Wave... Hope that helped, Hannah!

And with that, we'll see y'all later!

CHECK OUT WHAT'S COMING SOON FROM

Archie
ACTION!

BRAND
NEW
STORY
ARC!



SONIC
UNIVERSE

ISSUE 83

**CAN DR. EGGMAN
DEFEAT THE EVIL
NAUGUS TWINS?**



**EGGMAN'S
DOZEN**

PART ONE OF FOUR

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 280



PEPPERS & DUSKIN
Hunzeker

KEYS' TEST
TO VICTORY
AND "A SPECIAL OCCASION"